

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the applications:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A fly fishing rod comprising a fishing rod shaft having a tip end and a proximal end; a handgrip mounted to the fishing rod shaft, proximate to the proximal end of said fishing rod shaft, the handgrip circumscribing the rod shaft and having a length l1 adapted for receiving a fisherman's hand thereon, the handgrip having an external diameter along at least a portion of the length l1 thereof which is greater than an external diameter of the fishing rod shaft, said fishing rod shaft having a rear-proximal portion extending past said handgrip towards the proximal end;

a sleeve like adapter secured over said ~~rear-proximal~~ portion, said adapter being formed with an engaging locking means, the sleeve like adapter having an outer face with a diameter d1 at a first end, proximate to the proximal end of the fishing rod shaft; and

a hollow cylinder having a peripheral wall with an outer face and an inner face opposed to the outer face and defining a cavity, the outer face including a reel seat with fasteners for mounting a reel to the outer face and over the cavity, the cavity having a diameter d2 wider than the diameter d1 allowing said adapter to be slidably inserted into said cavity by first inserting the first end of said adapter, said hollow cylinder having an engageable member engageable with said engaging locking means when sliding the hollow cylinder over the adapter, said hollow cylinder being for releasably securing said hollow cylinder to said adapter by inducing less than a 360 degree rotation of the hollow cylinder relatively to the adapter; and

a reel, with a fishing line, mounted to the outer face and over the cavity of the hollow cylinder, and the hollow cylinder being removable from the adapter as a single unit with the reel mounted to the reel seat by disengaging said engageable member from said

engaging locking means, thereby allowing said reel and said hollow cylinder to be mounted to and dismounted from said adapter secured over said fishing rod shaft.

2. (previously amended) The fly fishing rod according to claim 1, wherein said engageable member comprises a stud extending inwardly from the inner face of the peripheral wall into the cavity of said hollow cylinder.

3. (previously amended) The fly fishing rod according to claim 2, wherein said engaging locking means of said adapter is in the form of a groove shaped to receive said stud.

4. (currently amended) The fly fishing rod according to claim 3, wherein said groove has an L-shape with a longitudinal portion followed by a transversal portion, so that when slidably engaging said hollow cylinder over said sleeve like adapter said stud advances through said longitudinal portion until reaching said transversal portion when said hollow cylinder is rotated to cause said stud to engage said transversal portion thereby locking said hollow cylinder to said adapter, securing the hollow cylinder in a single predetermined position on the fishing rod shaft.

5. (original) The fly fishing rod according to claim 4, wherein said transversal portion is adapted to lock said stud therein by friction means.

6. (currently amended) The fly fishing rod according to claim 1, which the hollow cylinder comprises handle means extending outwardly from the outer face for rotating the hollow cylinder for locking or unlocking the hollow cylinder to said adapter and manipulating it when removed from the fishing rod shaft.

7-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) The fly fishing rod according to claim 1, wherein the reel is removably securable to the outer face of the hollow cylinder, ~~over-superposed~~ to the cavity.

22. (currently amended) The fly fishing rod according to claim 1, wherein the adapter entirely covers the ~~rear-proximal~~ portion and the proximal end of the fishing rod shaft.

23-25. (canceled)

26. (New) A fly fishing rod with a detachable reel seat, the fly fishing rod comprising :
a fishing rod shaft having a tip end and a proximal end;

a handgrip mounted to and circumscribing the fishing rod shaft, near to the proximal end of the fishing rod shaft, the handgrip having a length l1 adapted for receiving a fisherman's hand thereon, the handgrip having an external diameter along at least a portion of the length l1 thereof which is greater than an external diameter of the fishing rod shaft, the fishing rod shaft having a proximal portion between the proximal end and the handgrip;

a sleeve secured to the proximal portion, the sleeve having a generally cylindrical outer surface;

a removable reel seat member defining a cylindrical cavity adapted to slide onto the outer surface of the sleeve into a mounted position, the reel seat member having reel fasteners;

a reel mounted to the removable reel seat with the reel fasteners; and

a locking member associated with the reel seat member and the sleeve for releasably locking the reel seat member to the sleeve by inducing less than a 360 degree rotation of the reel seat relatively to the sleeve;

whereby the reel and reel seat member can be released and removed from the fishing rod during the sport of fly fishing.

27. (New) A fly fishing rod as claimed in claim 26, wherein the locking member comprises a male member and a corresponding female member, engageable with the male member, the male member being associated with one of the reel seat member and the sleeve, the female member being associated with the other one of the reel seat member and the sleeve.

28. (New) A fly fishing rod as claimed in claim 27, wherein the male member comprises a stud and the female member comprises a groove shaped to receive the stud.

29. (New) A fly fishing rod as claimed in claim 28, wherein the stud extends inwardly in the cylindrical cavity of the reel seat member.

30. (New) A fly fishing rod as claimed in claim 28, wherein the groove is defined in the outer surface of the sleeve, the groove having an L-shape with a longitudinal portion followed by a transversal portion.